



General Assembly

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Sixtieth session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 130
Joint Inspection Unit

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Joint Inspection Unit

A

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the Joint Inspection Unit, in particular resolutions 31/192 of 22 December 1976, 50/233 of 7 June 1996, 54/16 of 29 October 1999, 55/230 of 23 December 2000, 56/245 of 24 December 2001, 57/284 A and B of 20 December 2002, 58/286 of 8 April 2004 and 59/267 of 23 December 2004,

Having considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2004 and programme of work for 2005,¹ and the note by the Chairperson of the Joint Inspection Unit,²

Noting the ongoing internal reform process of the Joint Inspection Unit aimed at further improving its effectiveness,

1. Notes the thematic reports in the programme of work for 2005,³ and in this regard, reaffirms paragraph 4 of its resolution 50/233;

2. Reaffirms the unique role of the Joint Inspection Unit as the only system-wide external oversight body;

3. Welcomes the efforts of the Joint Inspection Unit to improve the quality of the reports issued in 2004, and also the improvements made in the implementation of its reform process, as indicated in paragraphs 1 to 5 of its report;¹

¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/60/34).

² A/C.5/60/CRP.1

³ Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/60/34), chap. II.



4. *Takes note with appreciation* of the single consolidated format of the report of the Unit on its activities for 2004 and its programme of work for 2005;

5. *Notes* paragraphs 28 and 29 of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2004, and urges all host countries to facilitate prompt access for inspectors to all offices of participating organizations;

6. *Takes note* of the programme of work for 2006,² and requests the Joint Inspection Unit to continue to submit an advance version of its programme of work to the General Assembly at its first resumed session;

7. *Requests* the Unit to continue to enhance dialogue with participating organizations and thereby to strengthen the follow-up of the implementation of its recommendations, in particular on managing for results;

8. *Reaffirms* the importance of effective coordination, in the implementation of their respective mandates, between the Joint Inspection Unit, the Board of Auditors and the Office of Internal Oversight Services, in order to maximize the use of resources and share experiences, knowledge, best practices and lessons learned;

9. *Requests* the Unit to include in future annual reports more information on the impact of full implementation of recommendations, including any cost savings, productivity and efficiency gains achieved.

B

The General Assembly,

Having considered the note by the President of the General Assembly on the procedures for the appointment of inspectors of the Joint Inspection Unit;⁴

1. *Decides* to revert to the consideration of this subject at its sixty-first session.

⁴ A/60/659.



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Fifth Committee
Agenda item 125
Programme planning

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Programme planning

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/234 of 21 December 1982, 38/227 A of 20 December 1983, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 55/234 of 23 December 2000, 56/253 of 24 December 2001, 57/282 of 20 December 2002, 58/268 and 58/269 of 23 December 2003 and 59/275 of 23 December 2004,

Recalling also the terms of reference of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as outlined in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) of 14 May 1976,

Having considered the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its forty-fifth session¹ and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on proposals on the strengthening and monitoring of programme performance and evaluation,²

Having received the letter from the President of the General Assembly transmitting the recommendations of the Second Committee concerning the evaluation of linkages between headquarters and field activities: a review of best practices for poverty eradication in the framework of the United Nations Millennium Declaration and on the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme,³

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as the main subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for planning, programming and coordination;

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 16 and corrigendum* (A/60/16 and Corr.1).

² A/60/73.

³ A/C.5/60/11.



2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as contained in paragraphs 36 to 39, 135 to 139, 151 to 158, 165, 175 to 178, 186, 201 to 212, 227 to 237 and 248 of its report¹ and the recommendations of the Second Committee concerning the evaluation of linkages between headquarters and field activities; a review of best practices for poverty eradication in the framework of the United Nations Millennium Declaration and on the in-depth evaluation of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme;³

3. *Re-emphasizes* the role of the plenary and the Main Committees in reviewing and taking action on the appropriate recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination relevant to their work, in accordance with regulation 4.10 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;⁴

4. *Requests* the General Committee to take fully into account resolutions 56/253, 57/282 and 59/275 in the allocation of agenda items to the Main Committees;

Programme questions

5. *Stresses* that setting the priorities of the United Nations is the prerogative of the Member States, as reflected in legislative mandates;

6. *Also stresses* the need for Member States to participate fully in the budget preparation process, from its early stages and throughout the process;

7. *Recalls* paragraph 3 of its resolution 60/246 of 23 December 2005, and invites the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-seventh session, in the light of its recommendations in paragraphs 118 to 120 and 122 of its report,¹ to provide further comments on the various aspects of the review process referred to in paragraphs 12 and 13 of Assembly resolution 58/269 to facilitate the decision of the Assembly at its sixty-second session;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as an exceptional measure and without prejudice to the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 41/213, 42/211 of 21 December 1987 and 58/269 or to the future scheduling of the sessions of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, and taking into account paragraph 4 of its resolution 60/246, to reschedule the forty-sixth session of the Committee to no later than September 2006 in order that it may consider the proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009 and other items on the Committee's provisional agenda;

Evaluation

9. *Takes note* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services,² and encourages intergovernmental bodies to make use of the findings of the programme performance report of the Secretary-General and evaluation reports for planning and policymaking;

⁴ ST/SGB/2000/8.

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly, as appropriate, on the measures taken to promote the strengthening of monitoring and evaluation in the Organization, as per the proposals contained in the annex to the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;²

11. *Concurs* with the findings contained in paragraphs 16 and 17 of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services,² and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly in the context of the overall information technology strategy on measures and resources needed to strengthen the use of information technology as a management and monitoring tool;

12. *Notes with concern* that the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services² was not submitted to the General Assembly through the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

13. *Welcomes* the enhanced coordination between the Joint Inspection Unit and the Office of Internal Oversight Services as reflected in the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services,² and encourages such coordination in the future;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services with reporting to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on ongoing efforts and measures taken to strengthen its in-depth and thematic evaluation function, as well as to respond to ad hoc evaluation requests by programme managers to ensure that intergovernmental bodies are provided with high-quality professional and objective reports on the performance of programmes and activities;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the measures taken to strengthen self-evaluation by programme managers and ensure more extensive and uniform use of self-evaluation at the programme and subprogramme levels, as well as to develop and implement common professional standards and methodologies for self-evaluation throughout the United Nations system, in consultation with the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination;

Other conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination

16. *Welcomes* the high priority that the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination continues to attach to ensuring effective and coordinated United Nations system support for Africa's development and the implementation of the priorities and programmes of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with reference to the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination in paragraphs 227 to 237 of its report,¹ to submit the recommended report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on further efforts made to ensure that support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development remains a priority of the United Nations system and that organizations represented on the Chief Executives Board increase their efforts in support of the New Partnership;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to enhance and monitor the effective coordination of system-wide efforts against hunger and poverty;

19. *Recalls* its resolutions 58/269 and 59/275, as well as discussions held at the forty-fifth session of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, and, in this regard, notes with concern that no conclusions or recommendations were agreed to on improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination during its forty-fifth session, and emphasizes the need for the Committee, within the framework of its mandate, to improve its working methods and procedures without having a negative impact on the effective consideration of other agenda items, in particular the proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009, as matters of priority, during its forty-sixth session;

20. *Recognizes* the importance of ensuring the highest level of expertise that is most appropriate for the Committee for Programme and Coordination, and, in this regard, invites the Committee to consider at its forty-sixth session how best to achieve this objective.



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Sixtieth session

Fifth Committee

Agenda item 132

**Report of the Secretary-General on the activities
of the Office of Internal Oversight Services**

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/218 B of 29 July 1994, 54/244 of 23 December 1999 and 59/272 of 23 December 2004,

Recalling also its resolutions 56/246 of 24 December 2001, 58/101 B of 9 December 2003 and 59/270 of 23 December 2004,

Having considered the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005,¹

1. *Reaffirms* its primary role in the consideration of and action taken on reports submitted to it;
2. *Also reaffirms* its oversight role and the role of the Fifth Committee in administrative and budgetary matters;
3. *Further reaffirms* the independence and the separate and distinct roles of the internal and external oversight mechanisms;
4. *Looks forward* to the results of the independent external evaluation of the audit and oversight system of the United Nations, and stresses that the evaluation should include, inter alia, proposals on:
 - (a) Ensuring the full operational independence of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;
 - (b) Strengthening the evaluation capacity of the Office at the programme and subprogramme levels;

¹ A/60/346 and Corr.1.



(c) Ensuring adequate funding arrangements for timely reimbursement by funds and programmes for services of the Office;

5. *Notes with concern* the description of the mission of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, as outlined in paragraph 1 of its annual report,¹ and in this regard reiterates that, in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 59/270, the mission of the Office should be in full conformity with its mandate, as approved by the Assembly in its resolution 48/218 B;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

7. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;¹

8. *Stresses* the importance of full implementation of legislative decisions, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that programme managers provide information to the Office of Internal Oversight Services to be reflected in the programme performance report on the rate of implementation of legislative mandates and decisions and, where applicable, where full implementation has not been achieved, the reasons therefor;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant resolutions, in particular cross-cutting resolutions, are brought to the attention of relevant managers, and further requests that the Office of Internal Oversight Services also take those resolutions into account in the conduct of its activities;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant resolutions pertaining to the work of the Office of Internal Oversight Services are brought to the attention of the relevant managers;

11. *Notes* that not all programme managers have reported the results of investigations to the Office of Internal Oversight Services, as required in paragraph 11 of its resolution 59/287 of 13 April 2005, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that programme managers comply with this requirement as a measure of accountability;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services to submit a report on the use of the best-value concept in the evaluation and awarding of procurement contracts in order to identify any possible misuse;

13. *Recalls* its request, as contained in part IV, paragraph 4, of its resolution 59/296 of 22 June 2005, and notes with concern paragraph 25 of the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services¹ concerning the management of fuel in peacekeeping missions, and welcomes the intention of the Office to report to the General Assembly on the oversight of fuel management in peacekeeping missions;

14. *Welcomes* the comprehensive tsunami risk assessments undertaken by the Office of Internal Oversight Services jointly with United Nations funds and programmes and specialized agencies, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that United Nations funds and programmes and specialized agencies cooperate with the Office in the preparation of a consolidated report on audits and investigative reviews undertaken of the tsunami relief operation and to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

15. *Also welcomes* the intention of the Office of Internal Oversight Services to conduct a risk assessment of the activities of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, and invites the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to request the Office, in this context, to conduct an audit of the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of services provided to its beneficiaries;

16. *Notes with concern* the numerous allegations of fraud and irregularities in the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, and requests the Office of Internal Oversight Services to submit an overview report on its investigations and follow-up to the General Assembly at its resumed sixtieth session;

17. *Decides* to modify the title of the relevant agenda item to read "Report on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services" in accordance with paragraph 3 of its resolution 59/272.



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Fifth Committee

Agenda item 122

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 54/236 of 23 December 1999 and 59/264 A, 59/272 and 59/275 of 23 December 2004,

Recalling also the importance of accountability and transparency to the Organization,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General¹ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,²

Measures to strengthen the accountability framework

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on measures to strengthen accountability at the United Nations;³
2. *Also takes note* of the additional elements that are intended to strengthen the accountability framework, which would seem to be somewhat fragmented;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further strengthen the current framework by establishing and ensuring an effective system of accountability that clearly defines the lines of authority and responsibility, as well as the respective roles of the individual elements of the framework, and efforts aimed at improving coordination between them in order to avoid duplication;

¹ A/60/312 and A/60/342.

² A/60/418.

³ A/60/312.



Monitoring and evaluation performance measures

4. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring that programme managers objectively evaluate programme performance and, in this context, that the Office of Internal Oversight Services should validate self-evaluation and reporting on programme performance by managers;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that programme managers understand and respect the monitoring and evaluation functions performed by the oversight bodies;

6. *Notes* that the electronic performance appraisal system is the formal tool employed by the Secretariat in managing staff performance and that it represents an enhancement of the performance appraisal system;

7. *Decides* that staff performance assessment should be further enhanced in order to strengthen performance management to ensure the accountable implementation of legislative mandates, and in this regard calls upon the Secretary-General to improve performance management measures, including:

(a) A system that recognizes competence as an integral element of performance management and eventual career advancement;

(b) A comprehensive range of measures to address underperformance as well as incentives to encourage outstanding performance;

(c) Direct links from performance to career advancement;

Governance review

8. *Recalls* its resolutions 57/278 A of 20 December 2002 and 59/264 A, and notes that there will be a separate report on an independent external evaluation of the auditing and oversight system, as well as on a comprehensive governance review, of the United Nations, including the specialized agencies;

9. *Notes* that the focus of the comprehensive governance review should be, inter alia, to clarify the roles and responsibilities of management with respect to supporting Member States, and emphasizes the intergovernmental nature of the Organization and its international character;

Oversight bodies

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of respecting the independent nature of the internal and external oversight structures of the United Nations, and recognizes that they are key governance partners;

11. *Recalls* its resolution 59/272 and, bearing in mind paragraph 4 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,² decides to revert to the issue of the terms of reference and title of the high-level follow-up mechanism in the context of its consideration of the report on the independent external evaluation of the auditing and oversight system of the United Nations, including the specialized agencies;

12. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring the full implementation of the recommendations of the oversight bodies, and requests the Secretary-General to

ensure that managers are held accountable for the delay or non-implementation of oversight recommendations;

Fraud and corruption

13. *Recalls* its resolution 59/264 A and the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning fraud and corruption, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on measures taken to implement the recommendations;

Procurement

14. *Recalls* its resolutions 57/279 of 20 December 2002 and 59/288 of 13 April 2005, and requests the Secretary-General to continue efforts to make the procurement policies and practices of the United Nations system more transparent, efficient and effective;

Enhancing transparency

15. *Notes* the steps taken by the Secretary-General to institute greater transparency in the appointment of some senior-level positions, including through continued consideration of the applicants put forward by Member States, at the request of the Secretary-General;

Ethics Office

16. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Ethics Office, and notes the Secretary-General's bulletin thereon,⁴ and in this respect:

(a) *Urges* the Secretary-General to finalize a system-wide code of ethics for all United Nations personnel, including personnel of the funds and programmes, at an early date;

(b) *Requests* the Secretary-General to administer and monitor more extensive disclosure of financial and other interests by United Nations officials in accordance with the amended Staff Regulations⁵ and to ensure enhanced protection for those who reveal wrongdoing within the Organization;

(c) *Endorses* the main responsibilities of the Ethics Office as outlined by the Secretary-General in his report⁶ and as established by the Secretary-General's bulletin;⁴

(d) *Emphasizes* that the administration of policy by the Ethics Office for protection of staff against retaliation when reporting misconduct should be carried out in close cooperation with the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the Office of Human Resources Management;

(e) *Also emphasizes* that training programmes to cover the range of ethics issues should be designed by the Ethics Office in coordination with the Office of Human Resources Management;

⁴ ST/SGB/2005/22.

⁵ ST/SGB/2006/4.

⁶ A/60/568 and Corr.1 and 2.

(f) *Recognizes* the need for incrementally requiring all pertinent staff, in particular those in high-risk areas, to provide relevant financial disclosure, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon in the context of his report on the activities of the Ethics Office at its sixty-first session;

(g) *Requests* the Secretary-General to present a comprehensive review to the General Assembly at the main part of its sixty-second session, as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report,² which should include, inter alia, his views on the possible establishment of a group of internationally representative experts to provide periodic, independent assessments of the Ethics Office for the consideration of the General Assembly;

(h) *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the comprehensive review referred to above, to report on staff perception of the impact of the Ethics Office on improving ethics and integrity in the Organization;

(i) *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report on the activities of the Ethics Office and the implementation of ethics policies, in the context of his annual report, for the consideration and decision of the General Assembly, as appropriate, under the agenda item relating to human resources management;

Management practices

17. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the contribution made by the Department of Management to the improvement of management practices, and time-bound plan for the reduction of duplication, complexity and bureaucracy in the United Nations administrative processes and procedures;⁷

Reporting requirement

18. *Endorses* the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as contained in paragraph 12 of its report,² and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly under the relevant agenda items as well as on an overview of the status of implementation of the provisions of the present resolution, as appropriate.

⁷ A/60/342.



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**Sixtieth session
Fifth Committee**

Agenda item 124

Programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman

**Special subjects relating to the programme budget for
the biennium 2006-2007**

The General Assembly,

**I
Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and
other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or
the Security Council**

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council,¹ as well as the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,²

Recalling its resolution 60/248 of 23 December 2005, by which it approved a charge of 100 million United States dollars for the twenty-six special political missions dealt with in the report of the Secretary-General³ against the provision for special political missions,

Noting the importance of enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of political missions of the United Nations,

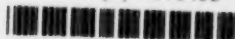
Recognizing the need to identify and achieve greater complementarities and synergies, where possible, among the various special political missions and good offices of United Nations entities,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;¹

¹ A/60/585 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2.

² A/60/7/Add.37.

³ A/60/585 and Corr.1.



2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions² subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reflect the improvements proposed in paragraphs 11 and 12 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions² in the presentation of the budgets for special political missions for 2007;

4. *Recalls* paragraph 7 of section VII of its resolution 59/276 of 23 December 2004, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that future budget proposals for special political missions are presented at an early date in order to facilitate proper consideration by the General Assembly;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General to utilize the existing expertise of staff within the United Nations system, including experts from regions where special political missions are located;

6. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to ensure the deployment of staff with relevant knowledge and experience to special political missions and good offices of the United Nations and to include information on progress made in future budget proposals;

7. *Notes with appreciation* efforts made to include information on actual and potential synergies and complementarities for each individual mission, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to develop and improve the presentation of information in this regard;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to identify means to achieve greater complementarities and synergies among the various special political missions and good offices of United Nations entities, including, where possible, through greater sharing of human resources and logistical arrangements, particularly where mandates are similar or interconnected, while being cognizant of their respective mandates;

9. *Recalls* that in paragraph 9 of its resolution 55/231 of 23 December 2000, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to ensure that, in presenting the programme budget, expected accomplishments and, where possible, indicators of achievement are included to measure achievements in the implementation of the programmes of the Organization and not those of individual Member States;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit his future budget proposals in full compliance with its resolution 55/231;

11. *Notes* the lack of information analysing the growth and decrease in resources proposed as well as the variances between appropriations and expenditures in the reports of the Secretary-General;¹

12. *Also notes* the variance between vacancy rates used in formulating budgets and the actual vacancy situation, in particular in medium-sized to large missions;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to formulate and present future budgets of special political missions on the basis of an analysis of actual expenditure patterns, including the latest vacancy situation and variances between appropriations and expenditures, for the purpose of achieving more realistic budgeting;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust to the Office of Internal Oversight Services a management review as outlined in paragraph 16 of the report of the Advisory Committee² and to submit it to the General Assembly at the main part of its sixty-first session;

15. *Reiterates* that experts and consultants for all special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives should be used in full compliance with the existing rules and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and where the expertise required is not available within the United Nations system;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in this connection, to provide full justification in future budget submissions when requesting resources for experts and consultants;

17. *Notes* the observation of the Advisory Committee in paragraph 52 (c) of its report² regarding the two positions funded from general temporary assistance, and requests the Secretary-General to include specific information on their status in the budget submission for 2007;

18. *Takes note* of paragraph 29 of the report of the Advisory Committee,² and decides to establish a position for a Political Affairs Officer at the P-4 level within the Office of the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General for Lebanon;

19. *Approves* an additional charge of 202,469,500 dollars against the provision for special political missions already approved under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007;⁴

II

2005 World Summit Outcome: Peacebuilding Support Office; revised estimates to the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Support Office and the related revised estimates to the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007,⁵ as well as the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁶

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁵

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;⁶

3. *Decides* to authorize the Secretary-General to utilize an amount of up to 1,571,360 dollars from the approved initial provision for special political missions under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007,⁴ to operationalize a peacebuilding support office;

4. *Stresses* that the authorization from the provision for special political missions referred to in paragraph 3 above is a provisional and exceptional measure, decides that the Peacebuilding Support Office shall be financed from the programme budget, and requests the Secretary-General to include a provision for the Peacebuilding Support Office in the appropriate section of the programme budget,

⁴ See A/60/6 (Sect.3) and resolution 60/247 A.

⁵ A/60/694.

⁶ A/60/7/Add.36.

commencing with the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009, to ensure sustainable and reliable long-term financing of the Office;

5. *Decides* to revert to the issues regarding level, staffing and functions of the Peacebuilding Support Office as contained in the report of the Secretary-General⁵ in the context of its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 and in the light of decisions, if any, that may result from the consideration by the General Assembly of the report of the Secretary-General to be submitted in accordance with paragraph 25 of its resolution 60/180 of 20 December 2005;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Peacebuilding Support Office has the necessary gender competence to support the Peacebuilding Commission in implementing its mandate to integrate a gender perspective into all of its work, taking into account, inter alia, Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and drawing on the appropriate expertise in the United Nations system;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the efficient use of the resources approved in the provision for special political missions for the biennium 2006-2007, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 23 of its resolution 60/180;

III

Liabilities and proposed funding for after-service health insurance benefits

Recalling its resolution 58/249 A of 23 December 2003,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on liabilities and proposed funding for after-service health insurance benefits⁷ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁸

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General⁷ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;⁸

2. *Also takes note* of the background information on the after-service health insurance programme provided in paragraphs 6 to 9 of the report of the Secretary-General,⁷ and requests further explanation of the programme;

3. *Recognizes* the end-of-service accrued benefit liabilities reported by the Secretary-General in his report,⁷ and requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to disclose those liabilities in the United Nations financial statements;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report that addresses the issues raised in paragraph 2 above, as well as the issues raised by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report,⁸ and that provides updated information on the status of liabilities, clarifications with regard to the assumptions used to determine liabilities and alternative strategies to fund the liabilities to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

⁷ A/60/450 and Corr.1.

⁸ A/60/7/Add.11.

IV**Harmonization of the conditions of travel**

Noting with appreciation the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on harmonization of the conditions of travel throughout the United Nations system⁹ and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon,¹⁰

1. *Decides* to revert to the consideration of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit,⁹ the note by the Secretary-General¹⁰ and any relevant contributions by the International Civil Service Commission at its sixty-first session, together with the question "Standards of accommodation for air travel";

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to initiate, within the framework of the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination, a review of the standards of travel and entitlements for staff members, members of organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and organizations of the United Nations system, with a view to adopting a common policy at the United Nations system level;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit the results of that review to the General Assembly at the first part of its resumed sixty-first session.

⁹ See A/60/78.

¹⁰ A/60/78/Add.1.



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Agenda item 127
Pattern of conferences

**Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following
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Pattern of conferences

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 43/222 A to E of 21 December 1988, 51/211 A to E of 18 December 1996, 52/214 of 22 December 1997, 53/208 A to E of 18 December 1998, 54/248 of 23 December 1999, 55/222 of 23 December 2000, 56/242 of 24 December 2001, 56/254 D of 27 March 2002, 56/262 of 15 February 2002, 56/287 of 27 June 2002, 57/283 A of 20 December 2002, 57/283 B of 15 April 2003, 58/250 of 23 December 2003, 59/265 of 23 December 2004 and 60/236 of 23 December 2005,

Reaffirming its resolution 42/207 C of 11 December 1987, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure the equal treatment of the official languages of the United Nations,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Conferences,¹ the relevant reports of the Secretary-General² and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,³

Reaffirming the provisions relevant to conference services of its resolutions on multilingualism,

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 32 (A/60/32).*

² A/60/93 and Corr.1 and A/60/112.

³ A/60/433.



I

Calendar of conferences and meetings

Takes note of the report of the Committee on Conferences for 2005;¹

II

A. Utilization of conference-servicing resources

1. *Reaffirms* the practice that, in the use of conference rooms, priority must be given to the meetings of Member States;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when preparing budget proposals for conference services, to ensure that the level of resources proposed for temporary assistance is commensurate with the full demand of services, estimated on the basis of current experience;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* that the overall utilization factor at the four main duty stations increased to 83 per cent in 2004 from 77 per cent in 2003, exceeding the benchmark for the first time since 2000;

4. *Recognizes* the importance of the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States for the smooth functioning of the sessions of intergovernmental bodies, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that, as far as possible, all requests for conference services for the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States are met;

5. *Notes with concern* the continued decrease in the percentage of meetings held by regional and other major groupings of Member States that were provided with interpretation services, at the four main duty stations, from 98 per cent during the period from May 2001 to April 2002, to 92 per cent during the period from May 2002 to April 2003, to 90 per cent during the period from May 2003 to April 2004, to 85 per cent during the period from May 2004 to April 2005, despite the fact that the number of meetings requesting the provision of interpretation noticeably decreased, by 15 per cent, during the period from May 2004 to April 2005;

6. *Recalls* that meetings held by regional and other major groupings of Member States are provided with interpretation services on an ad hoc basis, in accordance with established practice;

7. *Once again urges* intergovernmental bodies to spare no effort at the planning stage to take into account the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States, to make provision for such meetings in their programmes of work and to notify conference services, well in advance, of any cancellations so that unutilized conference-servicing resources may, to the extent possible, be reassigned to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States;

8. *Notes* that improvements in the utilization factor might entail a reduction in the availability of conference services for meetings of regional groups, and requests the Secretary-General to explore innovative ways to address this problem and to report to the General Assembly through the Committee on Conferences;

9. *Welcomes* the steps taken by those bodies that have adjusted their programmes of work in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources, and requests the Committee on Conferences to continue

consultations with the secretariats and bureaux of bodies that underutilize their conference-servicing resources, in line with what was requested by paragraph 2 of section II A of its resolution 59/265;

10. *Recalls* its several resolutions, including resolution 59/265, section II A, paragraph 8, reaffirms that, in conformity with the headquarters rule, all meetings of Nairobi-based United Nations bodies shall take place in Nairobi, except as otherwise authorized by the General Assembly or the Committee on Conferences acting on its behalf, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the subject to the Assembly at its sixty-first session through the Committee on Conferences;

11. *Strongly discourages* any invitation to host meetings that would violate the headquarters rule at the United Nations Office at Nairobi and at other United Nations centres with low utilization levels;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken so far to increase utilization of the conference facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa, in particular the introduction by the Commission of an integrated system for the management of its conferences and the conducting of a fact-finding mission to identify best practices at similar conference centres within the United Nations system;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure that the conference centre at the Economic Commission for Africa establishes and develops linkages with other centres and bodies and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session through the Committee on Conferences;

14. *Notes* that the strict implementation of the headquarters minimum operating security standards has compelled the Economic Commission for Africa to restrict the utilization of its conference centre to organizations of the United Nations family, foreign representatives accredited to Addis Ababa, the African Union, recognized international non-governmental organizations and the Government of Ethiopia;

15. *Invites* the Secretary-General to explore means to increase the utilization of the conference centre of the Economic Commission for Africa, bearing in mind the headquarters minimum operating security standards, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session, through the Committee on Conferences;

B. Reform of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management

1. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

2. *Also reaffirms* that the major goals of the reform of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat are to provide high-quality documents in a timely manner in all official languages, as well as high-quality conference services to Member States at all duty stations, and to achieve those aims as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

3. *Notes* the ongoing efforts towards the attainment of integrated global management, and recognizes the upgrading of the information technology capacity at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, which is essential for the successful

achievement of integrated global management, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly appraised of progress made in this regard;

4. *Also notes* the initial measures taken so far by the Department to seek the evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them as a key performance indicator of the Department, including through language-specific informational meetings twice a year, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that such measures provide equal opportunities to Member States to present their evaluation in the six official languages of the United Nations and are in full compliance with relevant General Assembly resolutions;

5. *Welcomes* the progress achieved in the implementation of the Electronic Meetings Planning and Resource Allocation System (e-Meets) and the electronic documentation management concept (e-Doc);

6. *Notes* the ongoing efforts towards the establishment of the integrated global management system, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the outcome of the work of the task forces through the Committee on Conferences;

7. *Takes note* of the conclusions of the departmental task force on workload standards,⁴ and requests the Secretary-General, while reviewing the issue of workload standards, which date from 1976, and performance measurement tools in the context of the introduction of applicable information technologies, to take fully into account the unique nature of the functions of the language services of the Department;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further explore the issue of offering information technology-related training (including keyboarding) and building basic information technology skills requirements into vacancy announcements;

9. *Recalls* section II.B, paragraph 10, of its resolution 59/265, and in this regard looks forward to the submission of the proposal referred to in that paragraph;

10. *Reaffirms* section II.B, paragraph 10, of its resolution 57/283 B, and in that context stresses the importance of maintaining the official records editing function, as well as the importance of retaining the concordance principle in order to ensure equally valid texts of resolutions in all six official languages;

III

Documentation and publication-related matters

1. *Emphasizes* the paramount importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations;

2. *Notes with concern* the continued high level of late submissions of documentation by author departments, which, in turn, negatively impact the functioning of intergovernmental bodies, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly, at its sixty-first session, through the Committee on Conferences, on impediments, if any, to achieving full compliance with the 10-week and 6-week rules for the issuance of pre-session documents, including, where appropriate, proposed measures to address such impediments;

⁴ See A/60/93 and Corr.1, paras. 60-62.

3. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that the rules concerning the simultaneous distribution of documents in all official languages are followed with respect to both the distribution of printed copies and the posting of parliamentary documentation on the Official Document System and the United Nations website, in keeping with section III, paragraph 5, of its resolution 55/222;

4. *Notes with concern* the non-compliance with rule 59 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the communication of resolutions adopted by the Assembly to Member States within fifteen days after the closure of the session;

5. *Reaffirms* its decision in section III, paragraph 9, of its resolution 59/265, that the issuance of documents on planning, budgetary and administrative matters requiring urgent consideration by the General Assembly shall be accorded priority;

6. *Welcomes* the efforts of the interdepartmental task force on documentation in addressing the problem of late issuance of documentation, and requests the Secretary-General to develop a clear accountability mechanism within the Secretariat for the submission, processing and issuance of documentation and to present a detailed report thereon to the Committee on Conferences for its further consideration and analysis, in order to provide concrete recommendations to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to direct all departments of the Secretariat to include the following elements in their reports:

- (a) Summary of the report;
- (b) Consolidated conclusions, recommendations and other proposed actions;
- (c) Relevant background information;

8. *Encourages* intergovernmental and expert bodies to include the above-mentioned elements, where appropriate, in their reports to the General Assembly;

9. *Requests* that all documents submitted to legislative organs by the Secretariat, intergovernmental and expert bodies for consideration and action have conclusions and recommendations in bold print;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take steps to improve the quality and accuracy of meeting records in all six official languages through full reliance in the preparation and translation of those records on sound recordings and written texts of statements as they were delivered in the original languages;

11. *Notes* some improvement in the issuance of verbatim and summary records, while recognizing that delay in their issuance still exists;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take appropriate measures to ameliorate the delay in the issuance of verbatim and summary records, with a view to issuing them in a timely manner;

13. *Recalls* section II.B, paragraph 14, of its resolution 59/265, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to further elaborate on all options, including those set out in paragraphs 59 to 63 of his report on the reform of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management,⁵ in accordance with legislative

⁵ A/59/172.

mandates, and to report on their practical and financial implications to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session through the Committee on Conferences;

14. *Recalls* section II.B, paragraph 13, of its resolution 59/265, and takes note of paragraphs 57 to 59 of the report of the Secretary-General,⁶ and decides to revert to this issue in the context of its consideration of the report referred to in the paragraph above;

IV

Translation and interpretation-related matters

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the highest quality of interpretation and translation services in all official languages;

2. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make sure that terminology used in translation and interpretation services reflects the latest linguistic norms and terminology of the official languages in order to ensure the highest quality;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the accuracy of translation of documents into the official languages, giving particular significance to the quality of translation;

4. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, when recruiting temporary assistance in the language services, to ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving maximum quality of their services, with full respect for the specificities of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;

5. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to address the question of the appropriate level of self-revision that is consistent with quality in all official languages and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

6. *Notes with concern* the disparities in interpretation and translation vacancy rates between the United Nations Office at Nairobi and other duty stations;

7. *Expresses deep concern* with the high vacancy rates in the interpretation and translation services at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, especially the chronic difficulty in staffing the Arabic Interpretation Unit, and requests the Secretary-General to address this through, inter alia, assistance from Member States in advertising and facilitating the conduct of competitive examinations to fill these language vacancies;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to address the problem of succession planning in order to fill emerging vacancies in language services in a timely manner through outreach to eligible applicants;

9. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General continue efforts to explore the use of new technologies, such as computer-assisted translation, remote and off-site translation and speech recognition, in the six official languages, in order to further enhance the quality and productivity of the conference services, and to

⁶ A/60/93 and Corr.1.

keep the General Assembly informed of the introduction of any other new technology;

V

Information technology

1. *Notes with appreciation* the progress achieved across duty stations in integrating information technology into meetings management and documentation-processing systems and the global approach to sharing standards, good practices and technological achievements among conference services at all duty stations;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the compatibility of technologies used in all duty stations and to ensure that they are user-friendly in all official languages;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to complete the task of uploading all important older United Nations documents onto the United Nations website in all six official languages on a priority basis, so that these archives are also available to Member States through that medium;

4. *Welcomes* the strengthening of the Information Technology Unit at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to address the issue of maintaining parity among duty stations in terms of information technology capacity.